Elections and Voter Registration

Frequently Asked Questions

Who is eligible to vote in Colorado?

Every person who is 18 years of age or older at the time of the next election, a United States citizen and has resided in the state and precinct thirty days prior to the election is eligible to vote in Colorado.

May Address Confidentiality Program participants register to vote and vote?

All Address Confidentiality Program participants over the age of 18 and eligible to register to vote may vote as "ACP Voters." As an ACP Voter, you can participate in national, state, and local elections without endangering the confidentiality of your actual address. The only way to keep your voting records confidential is to be a participant in the Address Confidentiality Program and to register to vote according to program instructions. By registering as an ACP Voter, you ensure that your actual address will not appear on any registered voter list that is made public.

How do ACP participants register to vote?

Specific ACP participant voter registration procedures are in effect. You may request an ACP Voter Registration Packet from the Colorado ACP. A voter registration form and ACP Voter Registration & Voting Guide is included in the ACP Voter Registration Packet materials.

What does residence mean for purposes of voter registration and voting?

When applied to voter registration, the term residence means the principal or primary home of a person. A residence is a permanent building or part of a building and may include a house, apartment, condominium, room in a house, or mobile home. You must have a residence in order to register to vote. Once that residence is established, it exists until a new residence is established. You may not have more than one residence.

What are the penalties for voting or registering to vote if I am ineligible?

It is unlawful for any person to acquire his or her own name, or the name of any other person, to be registered in the registration book of a precinct in which such person is not, at the time of such registration, entitled to be registered or for any person to acquire any fictitious name to be registered in the registration book of any precinct. As of July 2006, any person who votes in an election knowing that they are not entitled to vote commits a class 5 felony. (See section 1-13-704.4, C.R.S.)

Why do I have to register to vote?

Voter registration is a means of determining the candidates and issues on which each voter is eligible to vote. Most states require voters to register to vote a certain number of days prior to election day. Voter Registration also protects the integrity of the ballot box by preventing voting in multiple locations.

Does it cost anything to register to vote?

No, registering to vote is free.

When is the last day to register to vote before an election?

The last day to register to vote in Colorado is 29 days before the election.

What is mail-in (absentee) voting?

Mail-in voting is a process by which voters who may choose to not go to the polls on Election Day can vote by mail-in ballot. Permanent Mail-in Voters receive a mail-in ballot for every election. Alternatively, you may request to receive a mail-in ballot for a specific election or the calendar year.

What is the deadline for returning a voted ballot?

All ballots must be received by 7:00pm on Election Day.